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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Sixty Years in Texas. By George Jackson. Dallas: Wilkinson Printing Co., 1908. 12mo, 384 pp., 34 ports., 7 ills.

Mr. Jackson frankly states in his preface that he had very little education. It would be gratuitous to parade the numerous minor faults that his book contains. Want of organization marks the entire book. The author has incorporated almost the whole of the "History of Dallas county, Texas: from 1837 to 1887, by John Henry Brown," but without any apparent reason for doing so he has broken up Brown's history and has scattered about the parts in such a manner that the reprinted portions will be difficult of identification by subsequent writers. He has brought the lists of county and city officials down to 1908. The author has also drawn upon the "Memorial and biographical history of Dallas county, Texas. . . . Chicago, 1892," without giving any credit to the same. The contents of the book that are original may be classified under verse, biographical sketches of pioneers of Dallas county and reminiscences of the author and his family, accompanied in many instances with photographs of the subjects. The biographical sketches in most instances are short—one or two pages. The reminiscences constitute the *raison d'être* of the book and include "The experiences of John and Mary Jackson, that emigrated from Devonshire, England, in . . . 1848, to Texas" (pp. 2-60), "When I took the gold fever" (1860), (pp. 177-204), and a "Diary of a trip to England" (1894), (pp. 287-322). About the first mentioned of these reminiscences centers the chief interest of the book; it narrates not only the incidents of the journey to Texas, but recounts the hardships and privations experienced after settling in Dallas county. This part of the book will find sympathetic readers in most of the old settlers of this State.

E. W. WINKLER.

Sketch of History. The First Texas Regiment, Hood's Brigade, A. N. Va. By Geo. T. Todd, Captain Company A, First Texas, 1861-1865.

This sketch has the merit of a terse, free, and familiar style, spiced with well chosen anecdotes, full of humor and illustrative

of the every day life of the Confederate soldier. It has much good historical matter. Its great fault is its brevity, and a failure to deal more with the personalities of the men who composed this famous command. The memory of the war between the States,—a few of its great generals, its campaigns and its battles, will live forever, but the names of tens of thousands of the brave spirits that went down in that awful conflict have long since faded into utter oblivion. It seems to the writer that the main function of a sketch of this sort is to rescue such names and inscribe them upon a roll of fame that will be accessible to all the generations that are to follow. It would interest the average reader, who is familiar with the political record of Colonel Wigfall, to know the details of his military record during the brief period he commanded this regiment, and to know more of Lieutenant Colonel Black, its actual commander, who was killed at Ethan's landing. A complete roster of this regiment would be a valuable historical document of itself. As instances of how little is known, even of our most prominent Confederate officers, the writer had to consult an Alabama book to find a sketch of General John Gregg,—the official records at West Point for one of General Horace Randall, and personal inquiry among a large number of the survivors of the Terry Rangers failed to elicit any information about Colonel B. F. Terry's life previous to his brief military career. Such matter embraced in sketches on the order of Captain Todd's will greatly enhance their permanent historical value.

Z. T. FULMORE.

The Missions and Missionaries of California. By Fr. Zephyrin Engelhardt. (San Francisco, Cal.: The J. H. Barry Company, 1908. Vol. 1, pp. xxii, 654.)

Father Engelhardt is the author of "Franciscans in California," 1897, but the present work is to be much more extended. The first volume contains an account of the origin of missions, and an account of Franciscan labors in North and South America. It deals briefly with the early voyages to the California coast, and at length (on the annalistic plan) with the Jesuit, Franciscan, and Dominican periods in Lower California.

The claim of the book is that it has been "compiled from origi-